

Who's for Iraq?



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**WHO'S FOR
'IRAAQ?!¹**

By Shaykh 'Abdul 'Azeez bin Ra'ees ar-Ra'ees

Translated by 'AbdulHaq ibn Kofi ibn Kwesi al-Ashanti

¹ Lecture translated from www.islamancient.com

We are spelling 'Iraaq' as it is actually supposed to be pronounced and not as 'Iraq' as this spelling has led to a number of incorrect pronunciations of the country in English. This has led to the country to be known as "I-rak" and "Earak" or other totally incorrect pronunciations. [TN]

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In the Name of Allaah, The Most Merciful, The Most Beneficent

As-salaamu'alaykum wa rahmatullaahi wa Barakaatuhu!

To proceed:

The domination of a group of Western states, headed by the US, over the land of the two tributary rivers ('Iraq)², may Allaah liberate it, during the current era hurts every Muslim. It is a grave calamity which necessitates the Muslims generally and the children of 'Iraq specifically to return to Allaah in order for Him to raise this oppression from them. It is also sought from them that they view the affairs with intelligence and long-sightedness and not with emotion and excessive enthusiasm. For the land of 'Iraq kindles tribulation and killing, which is not only due to the disbelieving countries, rather it is from two groups:

THE FIRST: The *Raafidab* – The *Raafidab* have exploited the situation and have served as a benefit to America which has lead to their establishment in a number of arenas such as leading the new 'Iraqee state and the army. The arena was open for them to harm the people of *sunnaah*, especially the civilians in the name of 'securing safety.' And now they progress day after day to assume the reins of the new state from every direction, I ask Allaah to destroy their aims.

THE SECOND: Those who call themselves "*Mujaahideen*" – And from them are the followers of Aboo Mus'ab az-Zarqawee at-Takfeeree³ the associate and friend of Aboo Muhammad al-Maqdissee at-Takfeeree who in his treatise entitled *Zil Himaar ul-'Ilm fi't-Teen* makes *takfeer* of the '*ulama* of the *sunnaah* such as Imaam 'Abdul'Azeez bin Baaz and Imaam Muhammad bin Saalih al-'Uthaymeen (*raheemahumullaah*).

² Ancient 'Iraq was known as Mesopotamia which literally meant '*the land between the two rivers*' i.e. the River Euphrates and the River Tigris. [Translator's Note]

³ It has been spread recently on some websites that Zarqawee has made *takfeer* of the king of the state of *tawheed* (i.e. Saudiyyah) king Fahd (*raheemahullaah*) and king 'Abdullaah (*hafidhahullaah*) and threatens the state of *tawheed* Saudiyyah and has mercy on al-'Awfee the leader of the al-Qaa'idah bombers in the land of *tawheed*, may Allaah take him to account with His justice. These press releases from Zarqawee are not strange as he is a graduate of the school of Abee Muhammad al-Maqdissee, but what is strange is that some of our youth (in Saudi) have been deceived by him, despite his threats against the security of the country of *tawheed*, may Allaah safeguard it.

These people who call themselves “*Mujaahideen*” have harmed the people of *sunna* the most, in a variety of ways:

1. They ascribe themselves to the people of *sunna* and thus their actions are ascribed to the *sunna* and its people and what is actually the case is that the people of *sunna* and their scholars free themselves from them (so-called “*mujaahideen*”) day and night. In fact, they (those so-called “*Mujaahideen*”) have the most enmity to the *sunna*.
2. They threaten the students of knowledge from the people of *sunna* with death and injury if they do not agree with them and recently one of my 'Iraaqee brothers called me and informed me that the *Salafee* bookstores in al-'Iraaq have been threatened by the *takfeerees*.
3. They prohibit the people of *sunna* to have their assumed place within the new 'Iraaqee state and due to these actions by the *takfeerees* the people of *sunna* have become those with the lowest position within the new state and at the rear passengers and it is well-known how much tribulation this will cause.
4. Due to their corruption which they call “*jihaad*” securing safety has been delayed and the *deen* or worldly affairs cannot be corrected except with securing safety.⁴

⁴ Indeed, some of the so-called “*Mujaahideen*” and “*resistance*” are *juhaal* (ignoramus) who are not fighting for Islaam but for racist nationalism and have even showed clear racism in their perverted cause! Then they wonder why they are being humiliated. In an article in *The Observer* (of London) a report by Jason Burke in Baghdad on Sunday September 12 2004 entitled “*One man's resistance: 'Why I turned out against America'*” revealed:

“Early one morning this week, when the police have yet to set up too many checkpoints, Abu Mujahed will strap a mortar underneath a car, drive to a friend's in central Baghdad and bury the weapon in his garden. In the evening he will return with the rest of his group, sleep for a few hours and then take the weapon from its hiding place. He will calculate the range using the American military's own maps and satellite pictures - bought in a bazaar - and fire a few rounds at a military base or the US Embassy or at the Iraqi Prime Minister's office. Then Abu Mujahed will shower, change and, by 10am, be at his desk in one of the major ministries. Abu Mujahed, worryingly for the analysts, fits into none of these easy categories. **For a start, he was pro-American before the invasion. 'The only way to breathe under the old regime was to watch American films and listen to their music,' he said. He had been a Bon Jovi fan. 'It gave me a glimpse of a better life. When I heard that the Americans were coming to liberate Iraq I was very happy. I felt that I would be able to live well, travel and have freedom. I wanted to do more sport, get new appliances and a new car and develop my life. I thought the US would come here and our lives would be changed through 180 degrees.'**

He spoke of how his faith in the US was shaken when, via a friend's illicitly imported satellite TV system, he saw 'barbaric, savage' pictures of civilian casualties of the fighting and bombing. The next blow came in the conflict's immediate aftermath, as looters ran unchecked through Baghdad. 'When I saw the American soldiers watching and doing nothing as people took everything, I began to suspect the US was not here to help us but to destroy us,' he said. Abu Mujahed, whose real name is not known by The Observer, said: 'I thought it might be just the chaos of war but it got worse, not better.'

He was not alone and swiftly found that many in the Adhamiya neighbourhood of Baghdad shared his anger and disappointment. The time had come. 'We realised. We had to act.' Nothing had been planned in advance. There has been speculation, and especially among American officials, that Saddam's henchmen had planned a 'guerrilla war' if defeated. **But Abu Mujahed, who described himself as 'a Muslim but not religious', and the others in his group were not working to any plan. Everything they did was improvised.** And each of his seven-man group had a different motive: 'One man was fighting for his nation, another for a principle, another for his faith.' Significantly, his group contains several former soldiers, angry at the controversial demobilisation of the Iraqi military by the coalition last year. Others, like Abu Mujahed, have salaried government jobs. **The cell is not part of any broader organisation and does not have a name, he said.** 'We are just local people ... There is a sheikh who co-ordinates some of the various groups but I do not know who he is.' To start with, the group lacked armaments and know-how. 'We made some careful inquiries. Some people gave us weapons, others sold us stuff they had looted,' he said. The group also sought out experts, often former military officers, who gave impromptu tutorials in bomb-making and communications. The group's first operation - in June last year - was an attempted ambush of three US soldiers in Adhamiya. It was a fiasco. 'We were so confused and scared we opened fire at random,' Abu Mujahed said. 'They took cover and we ran away.' Their next try was more successful. The lead vehicle of an American military convoy ran over an anti-tank mine the group had laid in a road. 'We think we killed the driver,' he said. 'We found the mine in a house that had been used by the military during the war. The Americans were not expecting that sort of device.' Over the next months the group varied the tactics. 'One day we try and snipe them, the next we use an IED [Improvised Explosive Device], the next a mine. We never get any orders from anybody. We are just told: "Today you should do something," but it is up to us to decide what and when.'

Black soldiers are a particular target. 'To have Negroes occupying us is a particular humiliation,' Abu Mujahed said, echoing the profound racism prevalent in much of the Middle East. 'Sometimes we aborted a mission because there were no Negroes.'

In contrast to many militants, who have killed hundreds of Iraqis in the last year, Abu Mujahed said his group was careful not to kill locals. 'We are now planning to use bigger bombs in central Baghdad. But it is hard because there are so many civilians' Support for the militants is far from universal. They are not attracting new recruits and finances are tight, he admitted. 'We used to be able to use banks and bank transfers. Now it is harder,' Abu Mujahed said. 'Often sympathisers buy cars in Saudi Arabia or Jordan and we get them driven to Baghdad or Basra and we sell them. A supporter in the UK has recently sent an Opel

So where is their intelligence?! Or rather, where is their *deen* and their fear of Allaah?! May Allaah fight ignorance and excessive enthusiasm due to the disasters and catastrophes that it has caused for the *Ummah*, so we are free from them because it has begun to expose their

pick-up. But most of our money comes from local people who support what we do but can't fight themselves.' Tactics depend on resources. The price of rocket-propelled grenades has gone up recently as supplies dried up during August's heavy fighting between Americans and the Mahdi Army in Najaf. The missiles now cost 25,000 Iraqi dinars (around £10) in markets in Sadr City, the northern Shia Muslim-dominated area of Baghdad - 10 times the immediate post-war price. The group is restricted to one attack every few days. There are also spies. He boasted of information from 'friends within the coalition' and said that his group have executed two suspected informers within Adhamiya. One was killed less than three weeks ago, after being under surveillance for a month. 'He had a wife and child but I did not feel bad. He was a fox. He was made to kneel and shot in the head.' Other suspected spies have been threatened and fled Baghdad.

Western intelligence analysts worry that various resistance elements might combine. But Abu Mujahed dismissed the Mahdi Army as 'thugs and traitors who ... welcomed the Americans to Iraq with flowers and then went looting' and said that relations with Islamic militants coming from overseas are worse.' Some have no allegiance to any group, others have so much money they must come from al-Qaeda. It is impossible to work with them. They are bloody people, **far too irrational**. They do not care if they kill innocent Iraqi people. They are terrorists.'

Last week US military casualties in Iraq passed the 1,000 mark, most killed since the end of the war by the actions of men like Abu Mujahed. The former engineering student said he does not know how many his group has killed: 'It is impossible to say what has been hit. **I could boast of killing maybe 25, but to be honest we don't know, he said. 'Maybe only five or six.**' 'I know the soldiers have no choice about coming here and all have a family and friends,' he added. **His justification for the struggle was an inconsistent mix of political and economic grievances and wounded pride:** 'We are under occupation. They bomb the mosques, they kill a huge number of people. **There is no greater shame than to see your country being occupied.**' He dismissed the interim Prime Minister, Iyad Allawi, as 'the Americans' Barbie doll' but then says that if everyone had 'full bellies' no one would fight. 'Iraqis' top priority is to provide a good living for their families. I take home less than 250,000 ID (£100) a month and I have four children. I have to pay the rent, doctor's bills, my wife needs something, my house needs something. And a kilo of chicken costs 2,500 ID.'

'The US or the UK are not my enemy. I know that any individual US or UK citizen is very good, but we will keep fighting the occupying forces. We have no choice.' And with that he left. The Observer was told not to contact him again." [TN]

private areas and their corruption openly for all to see. Indeed, they change their colours saying **“we never gave them any help whatsoever”** and some of them say **“Rather we supported them, but they changed, and the ones who we supported were not like those others”** and the likes of such arguments. There is no benefit of being regretful later and most of this which occurred from them is exactly what they did during the Algerian revolt over ten years ago. However, Allaah bestowed the Shaykh and *Mujaahid* 'AbdulMaalik Ramadaanee al-Jazaa'iree, may Allaah grant him success, to compile the statements of the major activists during the Algerian troubles and compared such statements with what resulted after them in his beneficial book *Madaarik un-Nadhr fi's-Siyaasah Bayna at-Tatbeeqaat asb-Shar'iyyah wa'l-Infia'alaat al-Hamaasiyyah* [Perceptions of Viewing Politics: Between the Divinely Legislated Application and Enthusiastic Disturbances]. The book was introduced by the two Imaams, Muhammad Naasiruddeen al-Albaanee (*rabeemabullaah*) and 'AbdulMuhsin al-'Abbaad (*hafidhabullaah*), so whoever is not convinced should refer to the book's observations in order to know the reality who how such people deceive people.

I call whoever has been taken by enthusiasm for the *deen* and concern for safeguarding the sanctity of the Muslims and gone to 'Iraaq, or has incited others to go to 'Iraaq, to not incite. They should control their enthusiasm and their excitement with the bridles of the Divine Legislation and they should know that the Divine Legislation of Allaah is wiser, safer and better than their own opinions of themselves and of the Muslims, because it is from Allaah.

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**“Should not He Who has created know? And He is the Most Kind and Courteous,
the Well-Acquainted.”**

{*al-Mulk* (67): 14}

Then they should reflect on the current situation in 'Iraaq and as to who benefits from the continuation of this war. By Allaah how strange is it that you really think that 'Iraaq will be somehow be ruled by the Book of Allaah and the *sunnah* of His Messenger (*sallallaahu alayhi wassallam*) while most of its people reject the rule of Allaah, such as the majority are *Raafidees*, Ba'thists or those who merely attribute themselves as being from *Ahl us-Sunnah* but are really

the furthest from it, except who Allaah has mercy on. How could this not be the case when this is also combined with pressure from the disbelieving states such as America?

By Allaah wake up and safeguard your blood and souls, as there is only one soul and we are responsible for keeping it safe, therefore it should not be put through self-destructive tests. By Allaah if America remains ruling over 'Iraaq, may Allaah not decree this, then its evil would still be better than if the *Raafidah* rule over it and the present situation is the best proof and witness of this. As the *sunni* within America and Europe can establish their worship and *da'wah* more than a *sunni* can in the land of *Raafidee* Iran?!!

Finally, the origin of this treatise is a lecture that I gave entitled 'Who is for 'Iraaq' during the time when the disbelieving Americans were intensifying their assault on Fallujah. And all praise is due to Allaah, the lecture was disseminated and distributed in the land of *tawheed*, Saudi, may Allaah safeguard it, and within many Muslim countries. So if it becomes clear that the source of this book was a lecture and not a specific book on the topic, then there is a must that you see the difference between the style of delivering speeches and authoring a book, and for that reason I rectified and removed whatever I felt was suitable.

I ask Allaah by His virtue to aid the sunnah and its people and to revive us upon the sunnah until we meet Him while He is pleased with us. As-salaamu alaykum wa Rahmatullaahi wa Barakatuhu.

'Abdul'Azeez ar-Ra'ees bin Ra'ees

Head of the website www.islamancient.com

1427 AH

In the Name of Allaah, the Most Beneficent, the Most Merciful

All praise is due to Allaah, we praise Him and seek His aid and forgiveness. We seek refuge in Allaah from the evils of our souls and the evils of our actions. Whoever Allaah guides there is none to misguide and whoever Allaah misguides there is none to guide. I bear witness that none has the right to be worshiped except Allaah alone, without any partners and I bear witness that Muhammad is His servant and Messenger. To begin:

It's the night of the 8th Shawwaal 1425 AH and we gather here today to discuss some words entitled *'Who is for 'Iraaq.'*

What the Muslim *ummah* is going through, from its weakness and being over-powered by the non-Muslims, hurts every Muslim with intense grief. What we are going through these days, the painful events which encompass our brothers in the land of the Two Rivers, 'Iraaq. Verily, if you were to look at what is encompassing our brothers, such as the dominance and corruption of the *kuffaar* over the Muslims over there, a Muslim would not hesitate to raise his hands and beseech his Lord to remove this harm from his brothers and to destroy the transgressors and to honour His *deen* and exalt His Word. What is more filthy, more unjust and more oppressive than them? How many homes have they destroyed? How many families have they fragmented? How many women have they made widows? How many children have they orphaned? How many mosques have they destroyed? And with all of this they attack with all human might and power that they have! May Allaah hasten its end and make it for Islaam and the Muslims.

This is a painful calamity and our *deen* is perfect, everything has been explained, al-Bukhaaree reported on the authority of Abee Hurayrah (*radi Allaahu 'anhu*) who related that the Prophet (*sallallaahu alayhi wassallam*) stated "*Allaah has not sent down a disease, except that He also sends down its cure.*"⁵ Our clear and noble Divine Legislation has explained the cure of this disease and of this calamity, do you know what it is? It is to return to Allaah and establish His *deen* beginning with establishing *tawheed* which is Allaah's right over His servants as Shaykhaan have reported on the authority of Mu'aadh (*radi Allaahu 'anhu*), so look at the *shirk*!! You find that it is prevalent within most of the Muslim countries and look at the innovation! You will also see that the Muslims are entrenched in it, to the extent that it has

⁵ Al-Bukhaaree, *Kitaab ut-Tibb*, *hadeeth* no.5678

become their *deen* that they think Allaah has ordained for them. Therefore, our tribulations and calamities are as a result of us leaving the *deen*, as Allaah has said,

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“Why (is it that) when a single disaster struck you (on the day of Uhud), although you had struck (the enemy in the battle of Badr) with one twice as great, you said “From whence has this come to us?” Say, “It is from yourselves (i.e. due to your sin)””

{*Aali 'Imraan* (3): 165}

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“Corruption has appeared on land and sea because of what the hands of the people have earned...”

{*ar-Room* (30): 41}

- Imaam Abu'l-'Abbaas Ibn Taymeeyah (*rabeemahullaah*) said in his book *al-Jawaab as-Sabeeh* (vol.6, p.450): “When the kuffaar are manifest that is due to the sins of the Muslims which necessitate a weakness in their eemaan, then if they repent with their eemaan completed Allaah will help them as he said,

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“So do not be weak and do not grieve and you will be superior, if you are indeed (true) believers.”

{*Aali 'Imraan* (3): 138}

And Allaah says,

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“Why (is it that) when a single disaster struck you (on the day of Uhud), although you had struck (the enemy in the battle of Badr) with one twice as great, you said “From whence has this come to us?” Say, “It is from yourselves (i.e. due to your sin)””

{*Aali 'Imraan (3): 165*}

- ❖ Imaam Ibn Qayyim (*raheemabullaah*) said in his book *Madaarij us-Saalikeen* (vol.2, p.240): “If the servant (of Allaah) reflects on the reason and cause his preoccupation with rejecting (such reasons and causes) would be more serious to him. If the servant (of Allaah) is a transgressor, then he is the one who has allowed transgression to command upon his own self. As Allaah says,

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“Why (is it that) when a single disaster struck you (on the day of Uhud), although you had struck (the enemy in the battle of Badr) with one twice as great, you said “From whence has this come to us?” Say, “It is from yourselves (i.e. due to your sin)””

{*Aali 'Imraan (3): 165*}

So He informed that the harm that the enemies do to them and their victory over them (Muslims): it is all due to the Muslims own transgression. Allaah says,

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**“Whatever calamity befalls you then it is due to what your own hands have earned.
And He pardons much.”**

{ash-Shooraa (42): 30}”

- ❖ Imaam Ibn Qayyim also said in his book *Ighaathatul-Luhfaan* (vol.2, p.182): “Likewise, victory and complete assistance (from Allaah) is only of the people of complete *eemaan*, Allaah says,

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**“Indeed We will grant victory to Our Messengers and those who believe in the
worldly life and on the Day when the witnesses will stand forth.”**

{Ghaafir (40): 51}

And Allaah says,

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**“So We supported those who believed against their enemy and they became
dominant.”**

{as-Saff (61): 14}

So whoever is deficient in his *eemaan*, his portion of support and assistance (from Allaah) will also be deficient. Therefore, if a servant (of Allaah) is afflicted in his own self or in his wealth, or by his enemies being dominant over him, then all of this is due to his own sins or due to his abandoning of the obligations or due to his involvement in *haraam*. All of this is from his deficiency in *eemaan*.”

Many sects have been misguided as soon as they try to diagnose the sickness of the Muslims, a group will say: “the weakness of the Muslims is due to the corrupt leaders being dominant” yet the first thing which denies this is book of Allaah, wherein Allaah says,

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**“And thus do We make the wrong-doers helpers and supporters of one another,
because of what they earn.”**

{*al-An'aam* (6): 129}

Therefore, Allaah supports an unjust leader as a punishment on his servants who oppressed themselves due to their lack of establishing the *deen* of Allaah. So when this sect erred and thought that the weakness of the Muslims was due to their leaders, the *deen* became talking about the leaders day and night. Imaam Ibn Qayyim said in his book *Miftaah Daar us-Sa'aadah* (vol.2, pp.177-178):

“Contemplate on His wisdom in that He makes the kings and rulers of the people those who have the same actions as them. Indeed, their actions manifested in the forms of their leaders and kings. If they were steadfast, their kings became steadfast; if they were just, their rulers were likewise just to them; if they were unjust, their kings and rulers would also be unjust. If plotting and treachery manifested amongst the people, it would likewise be manifest in their leaders. If they withheld from the rights of Allaah and were stingy, their kings and rulers would also withhold their money and be stingy. If they took from those who were weak without right in their interactions with them, the kings and rulers would take from them without right...so their actions are an image of the people's actions and it is not from Divine Wisdom except that those who are evil and immoral are put over those who are like them in actions. When the first generations were the best of generations and the most righteous, their leaders were like that aswell. Now though, the wisdom of Allaah denies that those ruling over us will be of the likes of Mu'awiyah, 'Umar bin 'Abdul'Azeez not to mention the likes of Abee Bakr, 'Umar! Rather, our leaders have our own condition and the leaders before represented the condition of the people they were ruling over. Both types each have their necessary wisdom and its own requisite.”

Look at the speech of this Imaam, who was firmly grounded in knowledge and spoke with wisdom and exposition from the Book of Allaah and the *sunnah* of the Messenger (*sallallaahu alayhi wassallam*)! Look how he made clear to us that our leaders are from us and are a punishment to us! So if we obeyed Allaah and traversed the straight way then Allaah would bless us with leaders and rulers like us. So whoever attributes the calamities of the Muslims to the rulers and leaders (solely) has greatly erred, is incorrect and is off the straight way.

- A group claimed that the weakness of the Muslims is due to the strength of their enemies and their superior fire-power and strategies and thus they became preoccupied with following the news of the enemies day and night! Following their might and this is also an incorrect diagnosis which is incorrect and it is based upon another mistaken issue which is following the news reports of the non-Muslims. If you look at the Book of Allaah you will find that your Lord says,

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“But if you remain patient and have consciousness of Allaah, their plan will not harm you at all.”

{*Aali 'Imraan* (3): 120}

So if we returned to Allaah, the plots and plans of our enemies would not be of benefit to them at all, they will plot and plan and Allaah plots and plans and Allaah is the Best of planners.

- Another group says that our weakness is due to the lack of unity, so they began to call the people to “unity” even with the different creeds?! So they call a *Sunni* to unite with a misguided partisan activist and to unite with a corrupted *Sufi* and even to unite with a *raafidee* innovator! They do not view that anything should be done except to unite the Muslims due to their idea that the weakness of the Muslims is due to their division. This is incorrect and the Book of Allaah makes clear this as Allaah says,

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“...and on the Day of Hunayn when your great number pleased you, but it did not avail you at all.”

{*Tawbah (9): 25*}

There is no god worthy of worship except Allaah!! On the Day of Hunayn there were many yet that did not benefit them, why? Because they fell into sin of fleeing, one sin such as fleeing from the battlefield led them to be divided so what about with *shirk* which has surfaced in the east and in the west of the Islamic countries, except for that which Allaah has shown mercy to?! Due to this we are going through what we are in now in terms of the weakness of the Muslims in general and in 'Iraaq particularly, and most particularly within Fallujah which has been over-powered by the immoral enemies of Islaam and their allies.⁶ I would now like to begin with some introductions before we enter into the topic itself:

⁶ These are all now rushing to flee 'Iraaq after blindly following the US into it! In an article on the front page of *The Guardian* (of London), on Thursday March 1 2007, entitled '*US commanders admit: we face a Vietnam-style collapse*' by Simon Tisdall, we read:

"Elite officers in Iraq fear low morale, lack of troops and loss of political will

An elite team of officers advising the US commander, General David Petraeus, in Baghdad has concluded that they have six months to win the war in Iraq - or face a Vietnam-style collapse in political and public support that could force the military into a hasty retreat... But the next six months are make-or-break for the US military and the Iraqi government. The main obstacles confronting Gen Petraeus's team are:

- Insufficient troops on the ground
- A "disintegrating" international coalition
- An anticipated increase in violence in the south as the British leave
- Morale problems as casualties rise
- A failure of political will in Washington and/or Baghdad.

"The scene is very tense," the former official said."